## REMARKS

By this response, claims 1-26 are pending. Independent claims 1, 17, 18, 20 and 21 are amended to better differentiate the invention in view of the prior art. Claim 3 is amended to provide a better antecedent basis. Claims 22-26 are new. All other claims remain as originally presented. Replacement sheets of formal drawings are also presented to overcome the Examiner's drawing objections. Reconsideration of all is now requested as is a timely Notice of Allowance.

Substantively, the Examiner rejects claims 1-9 and 12-21 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as anticipated by Kanojia et al., U.S. 6,714,992. Insofar as it arguably relates to the instant invention, Kanojia teaches the uninstallation of a peripheral device (e.g., joy stick) driver, for example, upon a system agent 220 being notified of the "disconnection" of the peripheral device. *Step 1016, Figure 8 and attendant written description col. 17, l. 29 et seq.* Thereafter, the system agent interacts with a system manager 120 to obtain an uninstall program and uninstalls the driver. *E.g., steps 1018, 1020, 1022, figure 8 and attendant written description col. 17, ll. 34-39.* At step 1024, the system manager then updates its status as to the uninstalled driver. "Disconnection," as skilled artisans will observe, is key to the entire driver uninstallation process. Conversely, "connection" or "attachment" is the key to driver installation (Figure 7) upon "the system agent 220 intercept[ing] the plug and play string from the peripheral device when it is attached to the USB port." *(Underlining added) Col. 16, ll. 65-67.*

In all claims of the instant invention, however, the "removing support information associated with the peripheral device" occurs "regardless of whether the peripheral device is connected to the computing device." In this manner, the Applicant's invention does not indiscriminately remove or uninstall drivers, for example, just because the peripheral device and computing device are disconnected. It also does not indiscriminately add or install them

just because the peripheral device and computing device are connected and a plug and play string is found or detected. Rather, the present invention appreciates the computing device and peripheral device may likely have a "transient in nature" relationship (*page 1, last paragraph*), but "removing support information" only occurs in the pending claims (1-26) upon design and does so "based on detection of the event related to the end of persistence." During use, the instant invention then embraces scenarios where a laptop and hotel printer, for example, will be repeatedly connected and disconnected from one another over some period of time during a user's hotel stay. But, "removing support information" only occurs upon "detection of the event related to end of persistence." Alternatively, if the printer driver could be uninstalled upon every instance of disconnection between the laptop and hotel printer, a user would need to continually reinstall the driver upon every instance of reconnecting the laptop and hotel printer. This would greatly exaggerate inconvenience. In turn, this is quite unlike Kanojia that demands driver uninstallation upon detected "disconnection" of the two devices.

Further, one instance of the Applicant's invention relates to an event of the end of persistence as part of an embedded instruction to invoke a plug-in, *Figure 5 and corresponding written description page 11, last paragraph - page 12, first full paragraph*, including a volatile date and time. As a result, the "monitoring" step in new claim 22 includes "assessing" whether the volatile date and time has been reached and, if so, then "removing support information associated with the peripheral device." Otherwise, if the volatile date and time has not been reached, the support information associated with the peripheral device is "not" then removed. Nowhere, it is respectfully submitted, does Kanojia anticipate or render this methodology obvious.

Unlike Kanojia, which requires mere detection of plug and play strings to install or uninstall drivers, claims 23-26 further require the affirmative "setting" of the end of

persistence of the peripheral device regardless of whether the peripheral device is connected or not to the computing device. Claim 24 even distinctly requires the setting to invoke a plugin. Claim 25, on the other hand, requires the setting to occur at a time during the "installing the peripheral device on the computing device." Claim 26, which depends on 25, further delineates the installing as part of "selecting a peripheral device icon."

The other dependent claims (2-16 and 19) are advanced as being patentable over the prior art as being dependent upon an independent claim having the above generally-discussed limitation of occurring "regardless of whether the peripheral device is connected to the computing device." Again, Kanojia installs or uninstalls drivers based upon detected connection or disconnection of the peripheral device. This methodology, however, is rote. Kanojia is then unable to install drivers if peripheral devices are disconnected or, conversely, uninstall them if the peripheral devices remain connected. The instant invention, however, precisely enables this to occur, if desired.

Even further, claims 2, 3 and 4 require the storing of an indicator of the end of persistence. Claim 3 even requires it in a database of configuration settings. Claim 4 then requires the monitoring of the database of configuration settings. Also, to provide a more proper antecedent basis, claim 3 has been amended to depend from claim 2 where the term "act of storing an indicator" is first introduced.

Claims 5 and 6 both require the running of an event monitor thread. Claim 6 requires starting it "after booting" the computing device.

Claim 7 requires actually installing the peripheral device on the computing device prior to monitoring for the event related to the end of persistence. What the Examiner should appreciate about this claim, is that parent claim, claim 1, is broader in scope. Thus, claim 1 allows for the scenario of monitoring for events related to the end of persistence even before the peripheral device is installed on the computing device. In Kanojia, however, installing

and uninstalling drivers is rote based upon connection and disconnection, respectively. They then have no means for any such monitoring before installing. In turn, claims 8-16 all depend directly or indirectly from claim 7 and are patentable for the reasons related to claim 7.

Nonetheless, claims 8-16 are also patentable of their own merit. Namely, they all further define installation of the peripheral device on the computing device. In some instances, this relates to "providing a representation of a physical layout" of the peripheral device and "receiving an indication via the representation." *Claim 8.* In claim 9, providing the representation occurs via "accessing the representation via a browser application." In claims 12 and 13, retrieving support information relates to "querying" second computing devices. Claims 14 and 15 relate to "receiving" a location of and "retrieving" appropriate support information and in what format this is acceptable. Claim 16 relates to "temporal status" of the support information. Claims 10 and 11, of course, have already been indicated as allowable. The Applicant, thus, thanks the Examiner for this.

To overcome the 35 U.S.C. §101 rejection, claim 21 has a modified preamble to indicate "a method for maintaining a computing device connected or not to a peripheral device." It is submitted this is now in an acceptable format rendering the rejection moot.

Support for the amendments are found throughout the specification. For example, volatile date and time is found in Figure 5 and its corresponding written description. "Setting" the end of persistence, whether by invoking a plugin or occurring during installation, especially via "selecting" a peripheral icon, is described in detail on pages 11 and 12.

The Applicant also concurrently submits five figures of formal drawings to replace the informal drawings of record. The drawings correct misspelled words, darken the detail and overall improve image quality. It is submitted the figures are appropriate and overcome

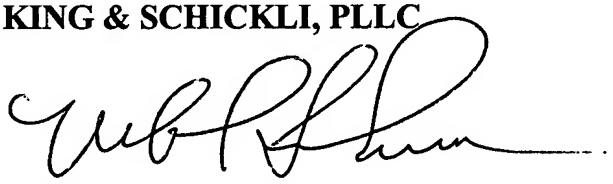
the pending objections.

Consequently, the Applicant submits that all claims are in a condition for allowance and requests a timely Notice of Allowance to be issued for same. ***To the extent any fees are due beyond the additionally paid for new dependent claims 22-26, the undersigned authorizes the deduction from Deposit Account No. 11-0978.*** No extra fees are believed due, however, because twenty-one claims were originally paid for at the time of filing and the Applicant herewith is paying for an additional five dependent claims. *PTO fee transmittal form PTO/SB/17.* The number of independent claims is also the same as in the original filing.

***Finally, the Applicant requests a change in the attorney document number of record. Namely, please replace 971-150 with 1363-010.*** The docket number changed when the most recent Power of Attorney went into effect.

Respectfully submitted,

**KING & SCHICKLI, PLLC**



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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on 4-27-05

Carolina Perdomo

**Amendments to the Drawings:**

The attached five sheets of replacement drawings include formal drawings for each of Figures 1-5.

Attachment: 5 Replacement Sheets